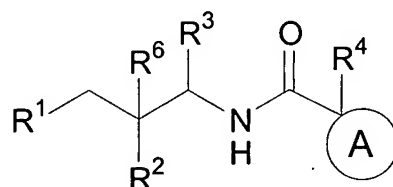


IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A compound of structural formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R¹ is selected from:

- (1) isopropyl,
- (2) isobutyl,
- (3) n-propyl,
- (4) cyclopropyl,
- (5) cyclobutyl,
- (6) cyclopentyl,
- (7) cyclohexyl,
- (8) piperidinyl,
- (9) phenyl, and
- (10) pyridyl,

wherein ~~each~~ isopropyl, isobutyl, and n-propyl ~~alkyl~~ is are optionally substituted with one R^a substituent, and cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperidinyl, phenyl, and pyridyl ~~each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl~~ is are optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^b;

R² is selected from:

- (1) cyclobutyl,
- (2) cyclopentyl,
- (3) cyclohexyl,

- (4) pyrrolidinyl,
- (5) pyrimidinyl,
- (6) benzoxazolyl,
- (7) dihydroindolyl,
- (8) dihydroquinolinyl,
- (9) benzotriazolyl,
- (10) thiophenyl,
- (11) indolyl,
- (12) indazolyl,
- (13) pyrrolidinyl,
- (14) pyridazinyl
- (15) triazolyl,
- (16) azaindolyl,
- (17) cyclobutylmethoxy,
- (18) phenyl,
- (19) pyridyl,
- (20) -NR^cR^d, and
- (21) -CO₂R^d,

wherein ~~each alkyl is optionally substituted with one or two R^a substituents~~ and each phenyl or pyridyl is independently with one to three R^b substituents;

R³ is selected from:

- (1) C₁₋₄alkyl,
- (2) C₂₋₄alkenyl,
- (3) C₂₋₄alkynyl,
- (4) C₃₋₇cycloalkyl,

wherein alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R⁴ is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C₁₋₄alkyl, and
- (3) cyclopropyl,

wherein alkyl and cyclopropyl are optionally substituted with one, two or three R^a substituents;

R⁶ is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) methyl,
- (3) hydroxyl,
- (4) halogen, and
- (5) -CN;

A is benzodioxane or dihydrobenzodioxane, wherein the A ring system is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents selected from a group independently selected from oxo and R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^d,
- (2) halogen,
- (3) SO₂R^c,
- (4) SH,
- (5) SCH₃,
- (6) -NR^cR^d,
- (7) -C(O)R^c,
- (8) -CO₂R^c,
- (9) -CF₃, and
- (10) -OCF₃;

each R^b is independently selected from:

- (1) methoxy,
- (2) halogen,
- (3) -SH,
- (4) -SCH₃,
- (5) -NH₂,
- (6) -C(O)CH₃,
- (7) -CO₂H,

- (8) $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$,
- (9) $-\text{CF}_3$,
- (10) $-\text{OCF}_3$,
- (11) C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl,
- (12) C₁₋₄alkyl,
- (13) phenyl,
- (14) benzyl, and
- (15) heteroaryl;

R^c is H or C₁₋₄ alkyl unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents selected from R^h;

R^d is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen;
- (2) C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;
- (3) C₃₋₁₀ cycloalkyl;
- (4) cycloheteroalkyl;
- (5) phenyl;
- (6) heteroaryl and
- (7) benzyl,

either unsubstituted or substituted on a carbon or nitrogen atom with one or two substituents selected from R^h;

each R^h is independently selected from:

- (1) halogen,
- (2) C₁₋₄alkyl,
- (3) $-\text{O}-\text{C}_{1-4}\text{alkyl}$,
- (4) $-\text{S}-\text{C}_{1-4}\text{alkyl}$,
- (5) $-\text{CN}$,
- (6) $-\text{CF}_3$, and
- (7) $-\text{OCF}_3$;

wherein cycloalkyl is selected from: cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, decahydronaphthyl, and indanyl;

wherein cycloheteroalkyl is selected from: pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, dihydroisoindolyl, pyranyl, perhydroazepinyl, and tetrahydrofuranlyl;

wherein heteroaryl is selected from: pyridinyl, benzimidazolyl, imidazolyl, oxazolidinyl, triazolyl, and benzotriazolyl;

m is selected from 1 and 2; and

n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R³ is selected from:

- (1) methyl,
- (2) trifluoromethyl, and
- (3) cyclopropyl;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claims 4 - 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein:

R¹ is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) pyridyl;

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents;

R² is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) pyridyl;

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents;

R³ is methyl;

R⁴ is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

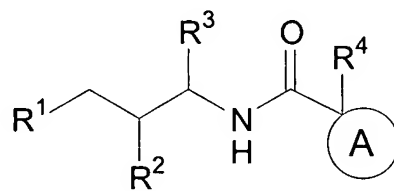
A is selected from:

- (1) benzodioxanyl, and
- (2) dihydrobenzodioxanyl,

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b; and

each R^b is independently selected from halogen;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) A compound of structural formula IA:



(IA)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R¹ is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) pyridyl;

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents;

R² is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) pyridyl;

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two R^b substituents;

R³ is selected from:

- (1) C₁-4alkyl,
- (2) C₂-4alkenyl,
- (3) C₂-4alkynyl,

(4) C₃₋₇cycloalkyl,

wherein alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R⁴ is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen,
- (2) C₁₋₄alkyl, and
- (3) cyclopropyl,

wherein alkyl and cyclopropyl are optionally substituted with one, two or three R^a substituents;

A is benzodioxane or dihydrobenzodioxane, wherein the A ring system is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents selected from a group independently selected from oxo and R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

- (1) -OR^d,
- (2) halogen,
- (3) SO₂R^c,
- (4) SH,
- (5) SCH₃,
- (6) -NR^cR^d,
- (7) -C(O)R^c,
- (8) -CO₂R^c,
- (9) -CF₃, and
- (10) -OCF₃;

each R^b is independently selected from:

- (1) methoxy,
- (2) halogen,
- (3) -SH,
- (4) -SCH₃,
- (5) -NH₂,

- (6) $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$,
- (7) $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$,
- (8) $-\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3$,
- (9) $-\text{CF}_3$,
- (10) $-\text{OCF}_3$,
- (11) C₃-6 cycloalkyl,
- (12) C₁-4alkyl,
- (13) phenyl,
- (14) benzyl, and
- (15) heteroaryl;

R^c is H or C₁-4 alkyl unsubstituted or substituted with 1-3 substituents selected from R^h;

R^d is selected from:

- (1) hydrogen;
- (2) C₁-10 alkyl;
- (3) C₃-10 cycloalkyl;
- (4) cycloheteroalkyl;
- (5) phenyl;
- (6) heteroaryl and
- (7) benzyl,

either unsubstituted or substituted on a carbon or nitrogen atom with one or two substituents selected from R^h;

each R^h is independently selected from:

- (1) halogen,
- (2) C₁-4alkyl,
- (3) $-\text{O}-\text{C}_1\text{-4alkyl}$,
- (4) $-\text{S}-\text{C}_1\text{-4alkyl}$,
- (5) $-\text{CN}$,
- (6) $-\text{CF}_3$, and
- (7) $-\text{OCF}_3$;

wherein cycloalkyl is selected from: cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, decahydronaphthyl, and indanyl;

wherein cycloheteroalkyl is selected from: pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl, dihydroisoindolyl, pyranyl, perhydroazepinyl, and tetrahydrofuranyl;

wherein heteroaryl is selected from: pyridinyl, benzimidazolyl, imidazolyl, oxazolidinyl, triazolyl, and benzotriazolyl;

m is selected from 1 and 2; and

n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8, wherein R³ is selected from:

- (1) methyl,
- (2) trifluoromethyl, and
- (3) cyclopropyl;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 11 - 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8, wherein:
R¹ is selected from phenyl and 4-chlorophenyl;
R² is selected from:

- (1) phenyl, and
- (2) pyridyl,

wherein phenyl and pyridyl are optionally substituted with one or two halogen substituents;

R³ is methyl;

R⁴ is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

A is selected from:

- (1) benzodioxanyl, and
- (2) dihydrobenzodioxanyl,

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^b is independently selected from halogen;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8, selected from:

- (1) *N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (2) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (3) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (4) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (5) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (6) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (7) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (8) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (9) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (10) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-6-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (11) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-7-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8, selected from:

- (1) *N*-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide,
- (2) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
- (3) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
- (4) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (1:1),
- (5) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
- (6) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
- (7) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (1:1),
- (8) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide, diastereomer III,
- (9) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer IV,
- (10) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
- (11) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
- (12) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (1:1),
- (13) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (3:1),
- (14) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomers I and II (1:1),
- (15) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
- (16) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I enantiomer A,

- (17) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-2-phenylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I enantiomer B,
(18) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I, enantiomer A,
(19) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methy-3-pyridylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I, enantiomer B,
(20) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(21) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
(22) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-6-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(23) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-7-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer I,
(24) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-6-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
(25) *N*-[3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2(S)-phenyl-1(S)-methylpropyl]-7-chloro-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxane-2-carboxamide diastereomer II,
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claims 17 - 22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Original) A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 24 – 29 (Cancelled)